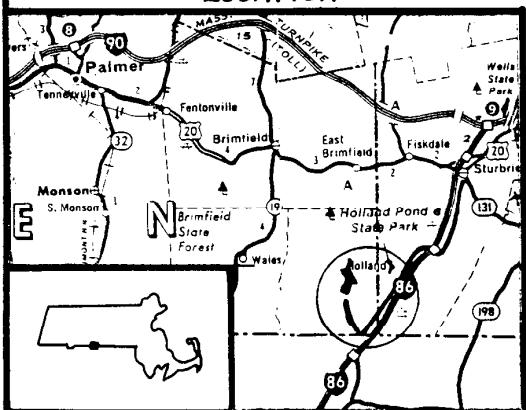


HAMILTON RESERVOIR
HOLLAND
Area = 249 Acres

LOCATION



NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

HAMILTON RESERVOIR (Holland)

General Information:

This is a relatively large, 412-acre, warm water reservoir located just south of the center of the town of Holland. Mashapaug Road divides the reservoir into a north and south basin. The southern tip lies within Connecticut. Access to the northern basin is near the dam and access to the southern basin is just below the intersection of Vintan Road with Mashapaug Road.

This reservoir can be characterized as relatively shallow and infertile, with a mean depth of six feet and a maximum depth of 21 feet. The nine miles of shoreline are 70% developed. Emergent aquatic vegetation covers about 10% of the surface area. The watercolor is brown with a transparency of four feet.

Hamilton Reservoir can be located on the U.S.G.S. topographical quad map titled "Wales." Nearby fishing areas include Holland Pond and the Quinebaug River.

Fish Populations:

The fish population was last sampled on June 30, 1980. The 13 species observed, listed in order of abundance, included landlocked alewives, white perch, yellow perch, pumpkinseeds, bluegill, chain pickerel, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, golden shiners, black crappies, brown bullhead, smallmouth bass and white suckers.

Fishing:

Hamilton Reservoir is unusual in that it has experienced a literal explosion in the number of landlocked alewives during the last several years. These are a valuable forage species, and it is expected that most gamefish, as well as yellow perch, will benefit immensely from this food source. Chain pickerel growth is already known to be excellent. Largemouth bass also display above average growth rates, but there is a scarcity of quality size fish 12 inches and larger. The reservoir does not offer good smallmouth habitat; hence these fish display below average growth and are relatively scarce. Northern pike were stocked here in 1979, 1986 and 1990, and trophy specimens are occasionally boated or iced.

The reservoir is stocked with several hundred brown trout and rainbow trout annually. Trout fishing is best from spring stocking to late May. General fishing continues during all four seasons. Ice fishermen should do well on yellow perch and northern pike.

March 1993